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Message Text

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14
ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 CEQ-02 CIAE-00 COA-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 EPA-04 INR-10 IO-14 L-03 NSF-04

NSC-10 NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01 SS-20 SPC-03 AEC-11 DRC-01

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R 141631Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2360
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, ENRG, NL
SUBJ: NUCLEAR ENERGY - REQUEST FOR PUBLICATION BY DR. T.
PIGFORD OF AEC

USEC FOR AEC REP RUBIN

1. ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE ASSOCIATION (VMD), AMSTERDAM, A PRIVATE GROUP, CLAIMS IN A NEWS RELEASE DATED 25 COT 73 THAT A (PRESUMABLY) RECENT PUBLICATION BY DR. THOMAS H. PIGFORD OF AEC GIVES LIE TO THE BELIEF THAT CRITERIA USED IN DETERMINING SAFETY OF NUCLEAR INST-ALLATIONS ARE BASED ON SOUND SCIENTIFIC FOUNDATIONS. VMD, WHICH DOES NOT IDENTIFY SUBJECT PUBLICATION BY TITLE, SAYS THAT ACCORDING TO PIGFORD THERE IS NOT ENOUGH EXPERIENCE TO SERVE AS BASIS FOR CALCULATING RISKS CONNECTED WITH OPERATION OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS AND THAT EACH JUDGEMENT AMOUNTS TO NO MORE THAN A GUESS. GROUP CLAIMS THAT SUBJECT REPORT HAS BEEN HELPFUL IN THWARTING PLANS OF NUCLEAR ENERGY DEVOTEES IN US AND MENTIONS, BUT DOES NOT CITE RECENT US COURT OF APPEALS DECISION AGAINST INSTALLATION OF A FAST BREEDER REACTOR. VMD LAMENTS NETHERLANDS LACKS PROCEDURES FOLLOWED IN US WHERE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO AUTHORIZATION OF INSTALLATIONS.
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2. RADIATION DIVISION OF MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE HAS CONTACTED EMBASSY TO ELICIT ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING COPY OF PIGFORD PUBLICATION ALLUDED TO IN VMD RELEASE AND WHICH RADIATION DIVISION BELIEVES IS ENTITLED "FUEL CYCLES FOR ELECTRICAL POWER GENERATION" BY PIGFORD, KEATON AND MANN, PUBLISHED BY TEKNIKRON PRESS, 2118 MILVIA STREET, BERKELEY, CALIF. RADIATION DIVISION INDICATED TO EMBOFF THAT VMD, HERETOFORE A RESPONSIBLE ORGANIZATION OF CONCERNED INDIVIDUALS, HAS LATELY BEEN LEVELLING CHARGES AGAINST NETHERLANDS ENTITIES CONCERNED WITH NUCLEAR ENERGY MATTERS, USING ARGUMENTS NOT SUPPORTED BY ANY EVIDENCE. RADIATION DIVISION WISHES TO BE ABLE TO RESPOND TO VMD CLAIMS BUT IS HAMPERED BY THAT ORGANIZATION'S NON-DISCLOSURE OF SOURCES.

3. RADIATION DIVISION (VAN MOLL) ALSO INQUIRED WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR DR PIGFORD OR, ALTERNATIVELY, AEC, TO COMMENT ON SUBJECT PUBLICATION AND ITS IMPOLICATIONS. VAN MOLL EXPRESSED HOPE THAT SUCH COMMENTS WOULD PLACE ISSUE IN MORE POSITIVE LIGHT THAN SUGGGESTED BY VMD IN ITS NEWS RELEASE SUMMARIZED ABOVE.

4. EMBOFF INDICATED TO VAN MOLL THAT, WHILE EMBASSY WOULD PASS ON REQUEST FOR COMMENT BY AUTHOR OR AEC, PROPRIETY OF SUCH COMMENT IN PRESENT CONTEXT MIGHT BE OPEN TO QUESTION, SINCE IT COULD APPEAR THAT AEC IS INJECTING ITSELF IN DUTCH DOMESTIC MATTER. EMBOFF SUGGESTED THAT PREFERABLE APPROACH MIGHT BE FOR VAN MOLL'S OFFICE TO ADDRESS LETTER EITHER DIRECTLY TO DR. PIGFORD OR TO AEC REQUESTING THEIR VIEWS ON THE ISSUE OF SAFETY GUIDELINES. EMBOFF DREW VAN MOLL'S ATTENTION TO 10CFR 100.1(B) CONCERNING NATURE OF PRESENT GUIDELINES USED IN DETERMINING REACTOR SITE SUITABILITY (COPY OF WHICH GIVEN VAN MOLL) AND SURMISED THAT ANY RESPONSE THAT AEC MIGHT MAKE WOULD LIKELY NOT BE MORE POSITIVE FROM VAN MOLL'S POINT OF VIEW THAN CITED REGULATION.
4. ACTION REQUESTED: (A) PLEASE FORWARD COPY OF PUBLICATION MENTIONED IN PARA 2 IF AVAILABLE OR ADVISE LOCATION OF DISTRIBUTOR AND PRICE; (B) PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER AEC HAS REVIEWED SUBJECT PUBLICATION AND, IF SO, WHAT, IF ANY, ARE AEC VIEWS.
GOULD

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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